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For Immediate Release
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Christmas Cheer Food Drive Expands to Natchitoches Parish

KALB-TV NBC/CBS2, The Food Bank of Central Louisiana and Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana is expanding the News Channel 5 Christmas Cheer Food Drive to include Natchitoches parish. Schools in Natchitoches parish are encouraged to collect non-perishable food items for those in need in their community.

Last year, Rapides and Avoyelles parish schools collected 87,802 pounds of food to help needy families in Central Louisiana.

All the food collected in Natchitoches parish is donated to the Food Bank of Central Louisiana, and is distributed to low income families through member agencies in Natchitoches parish.

The Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, in association with KALB-TV NBC/CBS2, will present cash prizes, in each parish, for collecting the most food in each of the education levels. A first place award of \$500 will be given at the elementary, junior high, and high school division for the schools with the most food collected per capita. The top collecting school for all three parishes will win an additional \$500 prize.

The News Channel 5 Christmas Cheer Food Drive runs from November 1 through December 8 for Natchitoches parish schools.

The Food Bank of Central Louisiana is a non-profit organization whose mission is to alleviate hunger in Central Louisiana. The Food Bank distributes food and grocery products to needy families through a network of approved charitable agencies in the following eleven parishes: Allen, Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Natchitoches, Rapides, Sabine, Vernon and Winn.

For more information about the Food Bank of Central Louisiana or the Christmas Cheer Food Drive, please contact Linda Hutson at 318-445-2773.

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